

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A multi-purpose cheese container and dispenser comprising:

a container sized and shaped to hold at least one monolithic piece of cheese;

a grater rotatably coupled to the container to inviolably close the container and to selectively rotate with respect to the container to grate cheese contained therein; a cover intended to be sealingly fit, in a removable way, into a respective peripheral seat of a mouth of the container; and

an external disposable casing for housing the container and the grater together with the cover, said external disposable casing comprising a body of a rigid material and a film of plastic material arranged to seal a mouth of the body, wherein the film is adapted to be definitely removed from the body to allow a first grating operation, whereby the film defines a first closure of the container that ensures a long lasting shelf-life of the cheese before the first grating operation,

whereby the cover defines a second closure of the container, the cover being adapted to be removed from the container every time that the cheese is to be grated, and being adapted to be sealingly repositioned on the mouth of the container after every grating operation, and

whereby the container can be filled with the cheese by a cheese vendor, closed with the cover and sealed within the external disposable casing, then the cheese can be delivered, sold, grated and dispensed, all without being touched by human hands.

2. (Previously presented) The cheese container and dispenser according to claim 1, further comprising trip coupling means between the grater and the container.

3. (Previously presented) The cheese container and dispenser according to claim 1, further comprising pushing means in the container, configured to push the cheese towards the grater.

4. (Previously presented) The cheese container and dispenser according to claim 1 wherein the film comprises a multi-layer plastic material with at least a barrier layer.

5. (Previously presented) The cheese container and dispenser according to claim 3 wherein the pushing means comprises a threaded stem, rotationally fixed with respect to the grater, and a pusher plate threadedly engaged with the threaded stem.

6.-14. (Canceled)